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WAR PRODUCTION

THE SATURDAY Evening Post appears in that limited group of publications, the editors of which have a sound concept of war production.

The money cost of the war to 1916 was 60 billions. The inhabitants of the fighting countries saved this sum in two years and five months. Doubtless they saved more. It is unreasonable to suppose that other forms of saving entirely disappeared. However, quoting the Saturday Evening Post:—

In all these countries a certain amount of capital lay available for investment at the beginning of the war. England and France sold foreign securities and put the proceeds into the war pot. Liquidation of some business provided further sums. But the amount raised in these ways must have been a relatively small part of the total. The remainder has been saved out of the income during the war—that is, the people of the belligerent nations have produced enough to support themselves and yield a balance of well toward sixty billion dollars for their governments to spend on the war.

The custom of speaking in terms of finance, rather than in terms of production obscures a little this excellent statement.

The war is fought with commodities. There might be foreign securities, gold in heaps and every form of metallic or paper representative of wealth invented. If there were no cannon, no airships, no rifles, bayonets, powder, bread, wheat, potatoes, clothing or the like, the war would end.

This war, like every other, is fought not with money, but rests upon the actual production of commodities used for war, either to sustain troops, or in the fighting. And war could continue, if there were no money, no securities and no finance, if only means of exchange or distribution continue by which the goods could be produced and distributed.

The true test of the productiveness of Europe is not the cost of the war, but the quantity of commodities produced. The showing in commodities is faster than the showing by finance.

If the commodities produced per person working before the war should be measured against the commodities produced per person working since the war, the increased production would be surprisingly great.

The usual picture of a war debt grinding the face of Europe forever is not necessarily, nor even probably, true.

Since a part of the inhabitants of the fighting countries have supported themselves, and also the fighting men, on a lavish scale, all of the inhabitants of Europe, after the war is over, should be able to reproduce the wealth the war has consumed in a period less than the war.

Something of this kind must be accomplished, or the gentlemen who now control the several nations may have to seek new jobs. When the soldiers come back they will expect all the inhabitants to produce more than a part of them; they will expect the production of more commodities during peace, than were had during the war. They will not understand an industrial system which can sustain millions of men in the costly waste of fighting, but does not keep people working and prosperous when there is nothing to do but work.

European leaders by this test must ultimately stand or fall.

EXPERTS AND THE LAITY

A DISTINGUISHED medical editor, whose training in dialectics is as scanty as his knowledge of medicine is extensive, announces that he will not talk medicine with the laity. The aristocratic feeling lodges in each human heart. All unconsciously our doctor-editor uses the language of kings. A king will not talk with the laity, said Charles Stewart; so the laity removed his head, close to his ears.

Our distinguished editorial friend is talking sheer nonsense. It was not so long ago that a portion of the laity, represented by the Board of Education, was addressed for the preservation of compulsory vaccination in the schools. By a lay determination, the compulsion was ruled out.

The statutes by which doctors hold some cherished rights were obtained by consultation with the laity, and will be altered, or repealed, at the will of the laity.

The laity has great faith in experts. It believes that architects know more about architecture, doctors more about medicine, lawyers more about law, judges more about judging than laymen know.

But the laity is numerous, its knowledge is universal, for to each group of experts all others are laymen. The laity knows that experts make mistakes, that they tend to undue pride of intellect; the laity reserves the right to correct mistakes and reprove pride.

Without in the least impugning the great advance medicine has made in recent years, and it has been great, it is fair to say that recent advances, in public health, have been largely brought about by the laity.

One group of laymen advocate temperance in drinking; another, an intelligent diet; some fight the social evil; others open windows, increase air spaces, and so on.

When the contribution to public health made by laymen is measured it is not small. It is large enough to induce a thoughtful doctor to think twice before he assumes to be raised up above the necessity of consulting the great body of mankind who are not doctors.

The laity calls in experts, but it reserves the right of judgment.

PAYING FOR PREPARATION

ONE HAS but to scrutinize those who shout loudest for preparation to find representatives of great wealth. These cry loudest for a tax on tea and coffee, which is a sure token of a desire to have preparation without paying for it.

Formerly war was a matter which involved chiefly the bodies of the plain people, who mostly did the fighting; also their property, because the taxes to carry on the fighting were usually laid upon the tea and coffee, the sugar and potatoes, the clothing and the homes of these same common people.

The present war is largely managed by democratic leaders; and if not this, by leaders trained in the school of state socialism. The bodies of the common people are taken as usual for the war. But the property of privilege is beginning to be taken also.

In France, Germany and Great Britain the governments say to the strong young man, "You can fight." They say to the rich,

elderly man, "You are too old to fight, but you can pay," and they take from 35 to 50 per cent. of his income.

This makes war unpopular with the very classes who formerly looked with favor upon the fighting. The cost of preparation should not be put upon tea and coffee.

It should be raised from species of property which being more likely to take a profit from war, or war preparation, are most likely to start a war.

Tax the profits on munitions, ocean freights, incomes earned in international trade or taken from foreign investments. Such taxes will discourage war.

To make the plain people fight and pay too makes war easy.

NO EXCITEMENT

WHEN A BAD actor announces he will appear in a good play there is no crowd in front of the box office.

Mr. King's blanket bill for an immediate millennium will not cause uneasiness in plutocratic circles. No farmer will delay needed improvements, expecting to obtain funds from Mr. King's farm loan bank.

The head lines granted to his millennial bills are justified by its mastodon comprehension.

Mr. King is the only politician deprived of his just committees in the General Assembly who ever had the idea of confiding to one group of twelve apostles, at \$4,000 per apostle, \$3,000,000 with which to establish in one and the same year farm banks, mothers' pensions, old age annuities, sick benefits, baby farms, hospitals for suffering kitties and steam yachts for politicians in need of recreation.

This is not the first time Bridgeport has been treated to doses of altruism. The ice plant, where is that? The commission government plan, where, oh where is that? Where is the Warrenite laid three years ago? Where are the snows that fell last winter?

Bridgeport may rely upon a certain quantity of altruism, however, such as:—

Fifty more policemen.

A six million bond issue.

An inflated grand list.

A boosted tax rate.

A million dollars worth of Warrenite.

Glory be! There are still men who love their fellows.

GORDON TO QUIT POST AS HEAD OF LOCAL CHARITIES

Superintendent's Resignation Causes Little Surprise in Official Circles.

Apparently convinced that he would not be reappointed to office at the expiration of his present term, April 1, Spencer R. Gordon, superintendent of the Charities department, has tendered his resignation to the commissioners. His action caused little surprise in official circles and it is understood the resignation will take effect at the end of his present term of office. Supt. Gordon, who has held his present position nearly three years, typed and mailed his resignation to the trustees yesterday.

The day before Christmas, John Youngs, a Water street undertaker, was left to die unattended and repeated calls for the ambulance to remove Youngs to a hospital or summon a doctor from the emergency hospital were ignored. After suffering 14 hours Youngs died, of quick pneumonia.

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FOUR BIG BILLS MAY TAKE TIME OF LEGISLATURE

Failure to Agree on Program Holds Up Action in National Congress.

Washington, Jan. 27.—Continued failure of Democratic senators to agree on a legislative program led some administration leaders to believe today that the only measures that can be passed before adjournment on March 4 are railroad labor legislation, mineral land leasing, revenue and appropriation bills. They expressed the opinion that the president would not call an extra session if these subjects were disposed of.

The senate interstate commerce committee has postponed final action on the railroad labor bill until next week. The corrupt practices, water power and flood control bills and the Webb collective foreign agency measure are still subjects of wide disagreement.

ERROR IN PROOF CAUSES PRICE OF CHAIRS TO FALL

The Farmer wishes to correct an error which appeared in Lee Bros' advertisement yesterday's issue, the chair special in which dining chairs were priced at \$2.38, should have read \$12.38. The mistake was due to an error in reading the proof and the Farmer takes this opportunity to make the correction.

THE KAISER'S BIRTHDAY

This is the fifty-eighth birthday of William II, Emperor of Germany, but, following the precedent established last year, the occasion will not be marked by anything of a festive nature. The Kaiser has ordered that the observance be confined to religious services and the display of flags. In peaceful times the twenty-seventh of January was the greatest of German holidays, when labor was suspended, and the masses of the people, with the exception of the social democrats, gathered in the beer gardens and other places of public resort to toast the Emperor in many brimming mugs of the national beverage.

Just what part the Kaiser will play in the year is yet to be recorded. One thing is certain—the world has attained that stage in civilization when war, although not impossible, is no longer glorious. If it should be shown that William II. was responsible for the terrific orgy of blood, not even the most conclusive victory could make him respected.

Passion and prejudice still obscure the vision, and doubtless still continue to do so until long after the war has passed into history, but neutral and unprejudiced opinion seems to be overwhelmingly inclined toward fixing the guilt on Germany. Even among those most certain of Germany's responsibility, however, there are many who insist that the Emperor himself did not initiate the struggle. It is the view of these apologists for the Kaiser that he, while claiming greater power than any other sovereign of a civilized state, and asserting himself responsible to God alone, was yet the victim of the conspiracy of war-mad civil and military officials. All this is but surmise, and time with its clearer vision alone can decide how much or how little the Kaiser wanted war.

It must be admitted that a perusal of the multitudinous newspaper and magazine articles about the Kaiser, written and published before the war, do not afford any firm basis for the belief that the German ruler had any consuming passion for peace. The great majority of such articles published in the American press prior to the war agree in painting the Kaiser as a monarch whose chief interest was in his military machine machine. Almost from the beginning of his reign he was known as the "War Lord," and he was never quite at ease unless clad in one of his several hundred military uniforms. While not neglecting the arts of peace, his great passion was always his military machine, if one accepts as true the myraid statements about him written before the war.

The D. M. Read Co.

Established 18--

The Coming Week
A Sale of Petticoats

In all wanted styles and materials

The sale last week was a great success, so after making additional purchases we continue the same prices until February first.

Fine Gloria Sateens, in black and colors.

Wool Jersey with sateen flounce, in regular and extra sizes, 95 cts

Heatherblooms in black and colors, \$1.35

Sateens made with double flounces, black, plum, wistaria, navy, gray and green, \$1.55

Heatherblooms in black and all fashionable shades, \$1.75

Heatherbloom Tops with taffeta flounces, black and colors, \$2.75

Taffeta Silks, in a large variety of styles and colors. Regular prices up to \$5.95, \$4.85

Silk Jersey Petticoats with taffeta and pompadour flounces, \$5.95

Jersey Skirts, all silk with wide plaited flounces in combination of colors and gold embroidery, \$7.50 and \$10.00

Second floor.

The D. M. Read Co.

Established 18--

RADFORD B. SMITH

FAIRFIELD AVE. VARIETY STORE BROAD ST.
CO-OPERATIVE—CAR FARE FOR CUSTOMERS
PROFIT SHARING WITH EMPLOYEES

COUPON GOOD
MONDAY, JAN. 29

Yard Wide Figured
Goods, Silkolones, Cretonnes, etc. Worth 15c
to 18c
WITH COUPON
12 1/2c

We have secured a big lot of these yard wide goods for our customers as we know they are wanted for making up comfortables and draperies.

THE WEATHER

New Haven, Jan. 27.—Forecast: Fair tonight, Sunday increasing cloudiness, probably snow; slowly rising temperature.

Connecticut: Increasing cloudiness tonight followed by unsettled weather and probably snow Sunday; rising temperature; moderate variable winds, becoming fresh east and southeast.

A long ridge of high pressure extending from Ontario southward to Virginia is producing pleasant weather in all districts east of the Mississippi river. A slight disturbance which is causing unsettled weather between the Rocky Mountains and the Mississippi river. A well defined storm area from the Pacific is central this morning over Washington.

Conditions favor for this vicinity fair weather with low temperature tonight, followed by increasing cloudiness and slightly warmer Sunday.



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We sell reliable Footwear. The kind that gives SERVICE

Men's Short Boots
Men's Storm King Boots
Men's Arctics
Women's Arctics
Misses' & Children's Arctics
Try a pair of our Wales Goodyear Service Heel Rubbers and note the wearing quality.

MEN'S LADIES' MISSES' BOYS' YOUTHS' CHILDS'

ALLING RUBBER CO.

1126 Main St.

THE CAPITULATION OF PARIS.

It is not alone because of Alsace and Lorraine that the Frenchman thirsts for "revanche" upon his old enemy, the Teuton. He remembers the horrors of the siege of Paris, when the once gay capital of the empire was besieged by the Germans for 131 days, and after horrors that no pen can ever adequately describe, was forced to capitulate. This Sunday will be a day of bitter memories for Parisians, for it was on Jan. 28, 1871, that Paris surrendered, and an armistice was declared. The downfall of the French capital followed by ten days that imposing ceremony in

Franklin D. Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the navy, arrived at Hayti.